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# Richmond Times-Dispatch

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6th YEAR

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WEATHER  
PAGE 5 — FAIR

PRICE, 2 CENTS

## TEXAS AUTHORITIES FEAR OUTBREAK THAT WILL SET ENTIRE BORDER IN BLAZE

### BOTH SIDES USE BIG GUNS NEAR VERDUN

Heavy Artillery Firing at Oppos-  
ing Positions Reported in  
French Statement.

### INFANTRY ACTIVE IN ARGONNE

Germans Expelled From French  
First-Line Trenches  
With Loss.

It is still in the French and Russian  
war theaters that the heaviest battles  
are in progress, but fighting also is  
continuing in the Austro-Italian zone,  
in Serbia near the Greek frontier and  
in Asiatic Turkey.

The French are keeping up their  
vigorous bombardment of the woods of  
Malaucourt and Avois, northwest of  
Verdun, which are held by the Ger-  
mans, and also are hammering with  
their guns at German lines of com-  
munication in the eastern fringes of  
the Argonne forest.

To the north and east of Verdun an  
intermittent bombardment by the Ger-  
mans of French second-line positions  
is still going on, with the French re-  
plying energetically.

The only infantry encounter along  
the western front took place in the  
Argonne forest, where the Germans  
gained a portion of a French first-line  
trench, but were expelled from it by a  
counterattack, and lost some thirty  
men taken prisoner.

### RUSSIANS AND GERMANS ARE HARD AT GRIPS

All along the Russian front, from the  
region of Friedrichstadt to the district  
around Vilna, the Russians and Ger-  
mans are hard at grips. Petrograd says  
that near Wilno, between Dvinsk and  
Vilna, the Russians forced all the Ger-  
man lines and barricades and repulsed  
a vigorous German counterattack.

Berlin, however, says that here the  
Russian attacks failed, with heavy  
losses before the German entangle-  
ments.

Bad weather prevails in the Austro-  
Italian theater, but, notwithstanding a  
blizzard, the Italians have attacked the  
occupied Austrian positions in the  
Cordevole valley.

Berlin reports that in the region of  
Gleiwitz, on the Silesian-Polish frontier,  
artillery duels have been in progress.  
The statement does not give the natu-  
ralities of the continuing battles.

The defeat of a British force that  
attacked a Turkish position on the  
right bank of the Tigris River, near  
Felahie, is chronicled by Constantinople.  
The report also says that Turkish  
airmen have again dropped bombs on  
Kut-el-Amara, where a British force  
is under siege.

### BOTH ARE BOMBARDING OPPOSING SECTIONS

PARIS, March 24.—Bombardments  
by the French of German positions in  
the woods of Malaucourt and Avois,  
and by both the German and French  
guns of opposing positions on all sides  
of Verdun, are reported in the French  
official communication issued to-night.

No infantry action has taken place,  
except in the Argonne forest, where  
the Germans entered French first-line  
trenches, but were immediately ex-  
pelled with a loss of some men taken  
prisoner.

### RUSSIANS MAKE PRIZES ATTACKS ON GERMANS

BERLIN, March 23 (via London,  
March 24).—The importance of the  
struggle around Verdun naturally  
overshadows interest in the contest on  
the eastern front, but hard fighting is  
in progress in the northern sector of  
the Russian line.

The Russian drive here became in-  
tense on the evening of March 19.  
More than 50,000 shells, chiefly of  
heavy caliber, fell over a small section  
of the front near Postavy. German  
(Continued on Ninth Page.)

### VETOES BILL AIMED AT SUPREME COURT

Stuart Rejects Act Requiring  
Written Statement of Reasons  
for Refusing Appeals.

### SIGNS APPROPRIATION BILL

Approves Budget Measure Carry-  
ing \$14,999,000. Exactly as  
Passed by Legislature.

Governor Stuart yesterday vetoed  
House bill No. 158, requiring the Su-  
preme Court of appeals to give reasons  
in writing for refusing an appeal, there-  
by exercising for the first time in  
the consideration of the new crop  
of legislative acts his right to reject  
any measure which, while constitution-  
ally unobjectionable, does not meet  
with his judgment in other particulars.

Around this bill centered one of the  
liveliest fights of the recent session.  
It was precipitated early with the in-  
troduction by Delegate Gordon, of  
Louis, of a resolution requiring the  
Supreme Court to file a statement  
showing how many appeals have been  
granted by it in recent years to cor-  
porations and individuals, and how  
many appeals of both classes it has  
refused. The resolution was killed.

Behind this resolution and House bill  
No. 216 was the vetoed charge that in  
granting and denying appeals the Su-  
preme Court has shown a disposition  
to favor corporations as against private  
individuals. While this charge was  
never openly made, either in commit-  
tee or on the floor of the House, its  
purport was common property.

### ACT REQUIRED COURT TO STATE REASONS IN WRITING

The enactment of a law requiring  
the Supreme Court to state in writing  
its reasons for refusing an appeal, it  
was assumed by those who gave ear  
to the charge of discrimination, would  
correct the condition complained of by  
placing on the court the burden of  
justifying each and every refusal to  
grant an appeal. Since the cases in  
which individuals seek relief from  
verdicts rendered in favor of corpora-  
tions form the larger class, it was  
sought by this bill to meet the alleged  
discrimination by requiring a state-  
ment justifying the court's action.  
Under the present practice, the court  
merely enters an order allowing or  
denying an appeal without assigning  
any reasons.

The official statement from the Gov-  
ernor's office concerning the reasons  
for rejecting the bill was brief:

"I vetoed because, in addition to other  
substantial reasons, unnecessary to  
mention, it imposes a large additional  
burden on a court that is already hav-  
ing much difficulty in keeping up with  
its docket. Such an accumulation of  
cases on the docket as might result  
from this regulation would prove an  
injustice to the litigant as well as to  
the court."

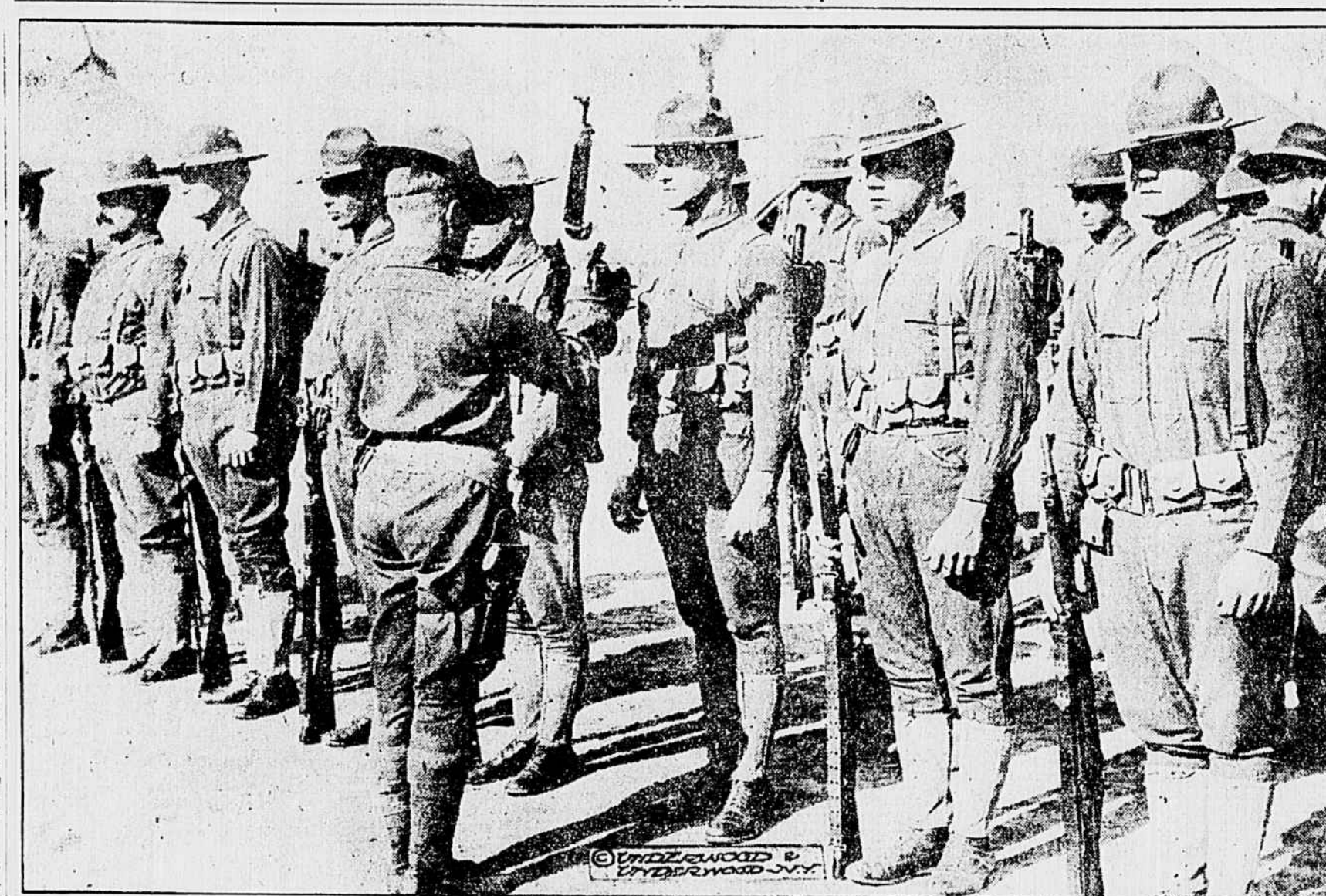
Aside from its general significance,  
the veto of this bill is interesting as  
the first instance of the Governor's re-  
jecting an act of the last General As-  
sembly because of a difference on the  
question of policy. In every other case  
this year the veto was due either to  
defects in the measure itself or to the  
fact that another bill of the same pur-  
port had already been signed.

### APPROPRIATION BILL IS SIGNED AS PASSED

After considering the bill carefully,  
item by item, for nearly two weeks,  
Governor Stuart yesterday affixed his  
signature to the general appropriation  
bill, approving it without change from  
the form in which it was adopted by  
both houses in the stormy legisla-  
tive session that preceded adjournment  
two weeks ago. It appropriates the  
estimated revenues of the State for the  
next two years, and carried appro-  
priations aggregating \$14,999,979.28.

While it was the effort of the Gen-  
eral Assembly, in view of the straight-  
ened financial condition of the State,  
(Continued on Fifth Page.)

### Inspection of Troops at Camp Cotton



Lieutenant T. K. Spencer inspecting the accouterments of his men, Company D, Seventh Infantry, at Camp Cotton, El Paso, Tex. The soldiers  
in camp are kept fit and trim by daily inspection, drill and review, and are ready at a moment's notice to fall in line for duty on the border or more  
active work in the field.

### ADMITS HE BOUGHT POISON PRIOR TO PECK'S DEATH

Dr. Waite Asserts, However, He  
Made Purchase at Request of  
Dependent Father-in-Law.

### WANTED TO COMMIT SUICIDE

Private Detective Declares Prisoner  
Asked Him to Attempt to Bribe  
Negro Maid to Corroborate Story  
of Dentist.

NEW YORK, March 24.—Confession  
was made to-day by Dr. Warren Arthur  
Waite, according to District Attorney  
Swann, that he bought the poison be-  
lieved by the authorities to have caused  
the death of his father-in-law, John E.  
Peck, of Grand Rapids, Mich., but he  
asserted that he made the purchase at  
the request of the millionaire, who was  
dependent and wished to commit sui-  
cide. Another sensational development  
late in the day was the statement made  
to Mr. Swann by Raymond Schindler,  
a private detective, that Dr. Waite had  
asked him to attempt to bribe Waite's  
negro maid, Dora Hillier, to corroborate  
the dentist's story.

"If she will say in court that she  
heard Mr. Peck ask me to buy the  
arsenic," Schindler told the district  
attorney Waite said, "and that she  
gave me the package unopened, I will  
give her a check for \$1,000."  
Dr. Waite, according to the detec-  
tive, thereupon signed what purported  
to be a check for \$1,000 to the order  
of the girl, written by Schindler on a  
sheet from his notebook. "This check"  
now is in the possession of Mr. Swann.

### KEPT UNDER CLOSEST POSSIBLE SURVEILLANCE

Waite was taken to the prison ward  
at Bellevue Hospital to-night. Mr.  
Swann said he wanted the dentist kept  
under the closest possible surveillance,  
because Waite had expressed regret  
that the drugs he took did not kill  
him, and that he wished he were dead.  
When first questioned, Dr. Waite is  
said to have laughed heartily.

In his statement to the district  
attorney to-day, Waite was self-pos-  
sessed, and spoke with evident de-  
liberation. But when he was ques-  
tioned about the alleged misuse of  
\$10,000 entrusted to him for investment  
by Miss Catherine Peck, sister of  
John E. Peck, and in regard to a  
woman he had previously admitted  
having lived with, he became indig-  
nant, saying:

"That has nothing to do with the  
subject in hand."  
"Yes," he said, according to Mr.  
Swann, "I bought the arsenic, but I  
know you won't believe what I am  
going to tell, so I'll probably go to the  
electric chair. Mr. Peck was an old  
man, and he was very dependent over  
the death of his wife. One day he  
asked me to buy some poison for him.  
I don't remember whether he said  
arsenic or not. I went to see a phy-  
sician acquaintance, told him I wanted  
to kill a cat, and asked him to recom-  
mend me to his druggist. He called  
the druggist on the telephone and told  
him I was all right. I also told the  
druggist I wanted to kill a cat. I took  
(Continued on Second Page.)

## Reassuring Reports From Mexico Reach American Officials

Apprehensions Aroused by  
Rumored Revolt of Car-  
ranza Garrison Com-  
pletely Subside.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—With dis-  
quieting reports from Mexico officially  
denied from all sources, administration  
officials settled down again to-night to  
await word that Villa and his bandits  
had been killed or captured by Ameri-  
can or Carranza troops. Apprehensions  
aroused by reports that the Carranza  
garrison at Chihuahua City had joined  
the Villistas has completely subsided.  
While Congress heard talk of rumors  
of impending border disturbances, the  
White House, State and War Depart-  
ments were satisfied that nothing had  
arisen beyond the border to justify  
additional military precautions.

No confirmation had reached the War  
Department of advices to General  
Clark, Secretary of War, of a son-  
dine, the Carranza close men of son-  
dine, that Villa was surrounded by columns  
of Mexican and American troops near  
Namiquipa. It was noted at the War  
Department, however, that General  
Funston placed some credence in un-  
official reports that General Pershing's  
troops already had met and engaged  
Villa's troops.

The report that Herrera and his garri-  
son in Chihuahua had revolted was  
positively denied by American Consul  
Beltrán in Chihuahua City, after State  
Department officials last night tele-  
graphed him for an immediate report.

### NO NECESSITY TO CALL OUT NATIONAL GUARD

When President Wilson met with the  
Cabinet this morning, this and other  
reassuring statements convinced them  
that there was no necessity to call out  
the National Guard for border duty.  
General Funston has not asked for ad-  
ditional troops since the Fifth Cavalry  
and Twenty-fourth Infantry were or-  
dered to join him.

Consular reports from beyond the  
border say conditions are normal.  
Administration officials were much  
incensed over the circulation from the  
border of alarming rumors as to what  
was happening in Mexico. The most  
persistent has been that regarding the  
Herrera revolt, which was transmitted  
by General Bell to General Funston,  
and the source of which has not been  
disclosed.

"I believe a large part of these  
stories originate in the minds of in-  
terested persons who desire interven-  
tion," Secretary Lansing said. He  
added that they could have no other  
purpose than to inflame the minds of  
the Mexican people.

Senator Stone, chairman of the For-  
eign Relations Committee, made the  
New Orleans and Return, \$24.75.  
Via SOUTHERN RAILWAY. Tickets on sale  
March 24-25. Phone Madison 772.

### MEXICANS REPORT VILLA SURROUNDED AT EL OSO

Flees After Defeat in Santa Ger-  
trudes by American and Car-  
ranza Forces.

### NOT CONFIRMED BY PERSHING

Officers at San Antonio, However,  
Expect News at Any Moment of  
Battle, and Funston Thinks It  
Might Already Have Occurred.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., March 24.—  
General Pershing's report to General  
Funston that two columns of his ex-  
peditionary force were in the vicinity  
of Namiquipa, 120 miles southeast of  
Casas Grandes, and repeated reports  
from Mexican sources that Villa, with  
a comparatively small force, had been  
forced to a stand at El Oso, near there,  
caused officers here to expect news at  
any moment of a battle. General Fun-  
ston thought it probable an engage-  
ment might already have occurred.

General Pershing referred to-day, for  
the first time since last Monday, to  
his operations south of Casas Grandes,  
but his report contained little infor-  
mation, and none concerning any encoun-  
ter between Villa and American forces,  
or the troops of the de facto govern-  
ment. He said Villa had last been re-  
ported at Namiquipa.

His report was taken by army of-  
ficers here to indicate that either no  
engagement was fought yesterday with  
Villa or that General Pershing had not  
learned of it.

### VILLA FLEES TO EL OSO, WHERE HE IS SURROUNDED

Council Beltrán, of the Mexican gov-  
ernment, received a message late to-  
day from Consul García at El Paso,  
saying confirmation had been received  
of the reported Villa defeat yesterday  
in the Santa Gertrudes Canyon by the  
American and Mexican forces, and that  
he had fled to El Oso, five miles from  
Namiquipa, where he was surrounded.  
The council added that one of the  
American officers with the expedition-  
ary forces had reported to General  
Pershing that they would attack Villa  
to-day.

The American troops near Namiquipa  
moved south and east from Casas  
Grandes over the trail that passes  
through Valle and Cruces. Valle, fifty-  
five miles from Casas Grandes, was se-  
lected by General Pershing as a tem-  
porary base, he said in his report to  
General Funston. The fact that he  
mentioned two columns as having  
reached points near Namiquipa caused  
it to be believed here that he had  
called back the third column dispatched  
from Casas Grandes, the first of the  
week from the trail leading to Carmen  
and sent it south from Galeana to join  
the Seventh Cavalry on its way south  
of Valle.

That General Pershing is experienc-  
ing some difficulty in communicating  
with the border is indicated in his  
message stating that unless he could  
secure the use of the Mexican North-  
western Railroad, he would have to  
call for more motor trucks.

### GOVERNOR ASKED THAT TROOPS BE SENT TO FRONTIER

Sheriff at El Paso Says  
Additional Protection for  
Americans Is Needed.

### FEDERAL OFFICIALS SEE NO PRESENT DANGER

Show Increasing Irritation Over  
Alarming Reports Now in  
Circulation.

### MAY ESTABLISH CENSORSHIP

No News Received of Reported Sur-  
rounding of Villa in Nami-  
quipa Region.

### EL PASO, TEX., March 24.—The seri- ousness with which local authorities regard the border situation was made evident to-night, when Sheriff Edwards telegraphed Governor James E. Fergu- son that he believed the Texas National Guard troops should be sent to the frontier.

Sheriff Edwards said "he did not wish  
to be called an alarmist," but that de-  
velopments in Mexico convinced him  
that additional protection was needed  
for Americans along the border. He  
refused to give the wording of his  
telegram or say how many additional  
troops he thought necessary. The ac-  
tion of Sheriff Edwards, taken subse-  
quent to that of the Arizona authori-  
ties in directing that the border com-  
panies of National Guard of that State  
be recruited to full war strength, gave  
renewed force to the tension which  
early in the day showed signs of re-  
laxing.

There is a sharp difference in the  
point of view between Federal offi-  
cials here, who insist that while the  
situation is filled with dangerous pos-  
sibilities, there is no reason to fear  
any immediate crisis, and local au-  
thorities who are equally positive that  
there is grave danger of an outbreak  
which will set the entire border in a  
blaze.

The Federal officials are showing in-  
creasing irritation over the alarming  
reports about conditions that are be-  
ing circulated here night and day, and  
which are being sent out to the rest  
of the country in news dispatches. They  
fear the effect of these reports on the  
Mexicans, who have shown many signs  
in the last few days of increasing reas-  
surance.

### THEY PROTEST AGAINST CIRCULATION OF REPORTS

Consul Edwards, at Juarez, and sev-  
eral other American residents in the  
Mexican town, sent a telegram to the  
State Department to-day, protesting  
against the circulation of these reports,  
and asking that steps be taken to stop  
them. It is understood that other Fed-  
eral officials have recommended a cen-  
sorship be established here.

No news of the reported fighting be-  
tween Carranza and Villa forces near  
Namiquipa, or of the report from Mexi-  
can sources that the bandit chief and  
his followers were surrounded five  
miles south of Namiquipa by American  
and Mexican troops, was received here  
to-day.

According to the Mexican consul  
here, Andres García, the Mexican  
wires have been cut between Casas  
Grandes and Madera. The same reason  
was given by Consul García for the  
death of news following the first en-  
counter reported near Namiquipa  
some days ago.

Contradictory reports and the absence  
of definite information have raised new  
doubts here as to the status of af-  
fairs in the district where Villa is sup-  
posed to be.

The status of General Luis Herrera  
was considered as doubtful here to-  
day, as it has been since the first re-  
port of his revolt reached this city.

In spite of reports from American con-  
suls and emphatic statements from Car-  
ranza generals and officials, the belief  
that Herrera had either turned against  
the de facto government or was on the  
point of doing so was firmly held here.

Americans from the interior to-day  
gave fresh color to this belief by cir-  
cumstantial stories of Herrera's defection,  
and asserted that he was to-day  
between Chihuahua and Parral, march-  
ing toward Torreon, with at least  
2,000 troops.

Seven privates, suffering from vari-  
ous ailments, arrived from the front  
to-day, and were taken to Fort Bliss  
hospital. The most serious of the six  
Private Robertson, of the Sixth In-  
fantry, stricken with paralysis. All  
told stories of the privations suffered  
in the dash across the Chihuahua  
desert. They complained especially of  
thirst and the distress caused by the  
chilly nights which followed burning days.

Numbers of the soldiers, they said,  
were in agony from swollen feet, in-  
fested by the sand, which sifted into  
their shoes and cut the skin. One  
hundred members of the expeditionary  
force now are at the base hospital.  
Thirty-five are said to be seriously ill.

### FRESH DIFFICULTIES FOR AMERICAN TROOPS

COLUMBUS, N. M., March 24.—Snow  
and sleet, coming after a nine-day  
march under a withering desert sun,

## HOME ECONOMICS

Buy-right Hints for  
the Thrifty Housewife

Daily spending is never end-  
ing, and is made up largely of  
small purchases. The repeated  
buying of necessities shows the  
largest aggregate of expense  
that drains the domestic bud-  
get. A constant exercise of  
economy in these purchases,  
not in the quantity needed, but  
in the price, is the real solution  
of saving money; not theoretic-  
ally, but substantially. A sav-  
ing you can count in real coin,  
or point to in something  
bought that would have other-  
wise been denied. A small leak  
will finally sink the biggest  
ship; and small leaks in daily  
buying of necessities will even-  
tually involve a loss, where a  
gain should have easily been

The Price is the Real  
Solution of Saving Money

shown in the monthly or year-  
ly reckoning.  
It is an easy matter for you  
to choose between the two con-  
ditions and make use of the  
better one. If you will read the  
advertising in The Times-Dis-  
patch you'll be able to credit a  
gain, instead of charging a loss.  
The Department Stores, Cloth-  
ing, Shoe and Drug Stores, the  
Grocers and the Markets, and  
many other lines, the most rep-  
resentative and reliable con-  
cerns in Richmond, advertise  
daily in The Times-Dispatch.  
They advertise the LOWEST  
prices on the BEST VALUES.  
Get the habit of reading this  
valuable news and keep your  
buying on the balance side of  
gain

NOTE—The Times-Dispatch guarantees a marked saving on every purchase  
made in Richmond stores that advertise their lowest prices in these pages.